DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 263 575 CS 209 381

TITLE	Grade 12 Diploma Examination, English 30. Part B: Reading (Multiple Choice). Questions Booklet.
INSTITUTION	Alberta Dept. of Education, Edmonton.
PUB DATE	Jun 85
NOTE	23p.; For related documents, see CS 209 375-387.
PUB TYPE	Tests/Evaluation Instruments (160)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Achievement Tests; Educational Assessment; English Instruction; Foreign Countries; Grade 12; High Schools; *Literature Appreciation; Multiple Choice Tests; *Reading Comprehension; *Reading Skills; Reading Tests; Student Evaluation; Test Items
IDENTIFIERS	Alberta

ABSTRACT

Intended for students taking the Grade 12 Diploma Examination in English 30 in Alberta, Canada, this reading test contains 80 multiple choice test items related to the ten readings in the readings booklet. The questions examine the student's skills in (1) understanding meanings, (2) understanding and interpreting the relationships between form and content, and (3) understanding and interpreting human experience and values as expressed through literature. (EL)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED263575

GRADE 12 DIPLOMA EXAMINATION
ENGLISH 30

PART B: Reading (Multiple Choice)

QUESTIONS BOOKLET

Alberta Education

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Part B of the English 30 Diploma Examination has 80 questions in the Questions Booklet and 10 reading selections in the Readings Booklet.

CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE AN ENGLISH 30 QUESTIONS BOOKLET AND AN ENGLISH 30 READINGS BOOKLET.

YOU WILL HAVE 2 HOURS TO COMPLETE THIS EXAMINATION.

You may **NOT** use a dictionary, thesaurus, or other reference materials.

On the ANSWER SHEET provided, use HB pencil to mark the CORRECT or BEST answer for each question as shown in the example below.

Example	Answer Sheet
Which month has 31 days?	A B C D
A. February	① ② ③ ●
B. April	
C. November	
D. December	

Mark only one answer for each question. If you change an answer, erase your first mark completely. Answer all questions.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)
X This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.
• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official NIE position or policy.

JUNE 1985

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
H. I. Hastings

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

CS 209381

I. Read "At the Age at Which Mozart Was Dead Already" on pages 1 and 2 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 1 to 8.

1. The author uses Mozart as a "symbolic figure" (line 10) because Mozart represents a person

   A. whose genius was revered
   B. whose brilliance was transitory
   C. who became famous in spite of adversity
   D. who achieved enduring greatness at an early age

2. The author cures herself of "low self-esteem and discontent" (lines 17-18) by

   A. retiring into passivity
   B. changing objectives
   C. becoming altruistic
   D. seeing into history

3. In the author's opinion, someone who lives for "*Who's Who*. . . or for the fleeting immortality of card catalogues" (lines 33-34) is one who cares about

   A. achievement and success
   B. fame and recognition
   C. wealth and position
   D. status and power

4. In context, the words "ruminate on" (line 39) mean

   A. give thought to
   B. rationalize about
   C. become depressed by
   D. become obsessed with

5. According to the author, to achieve a "balanced life" (line 45), one must possess

   A. intelligence
   B. determination
   C. personal insight
   D. personal ambition

6. When the author says "I have at least finally realized one truth that comes with the candles" (lines 46-47) she means that, for her,

   A. enlightenment is the result of maturity and compromise
   B. complacency has resulted from the light of knowledge
   C. resignation is the result of awareness of mortality
   D. revelation has resulted from mystical experience

7. The author's MOST effective technique for engaging her readers is

   A. establishing mutual points of reference
   B. emphasizing the importance of success
   C. emphasizing the value of personal aspirations
   D. expressing her fear of aging through anecdote

8. The author's MAIN thesis is that

   A. personal assertiveness is essential in the search for fame

   B. self-acceptance, tempered with realistic ambition, is essential for a meaningful life

   C. some people are born to distinction; others must be content with emulating great people

   D. competition in contemporary life invites comparison with famous personages past and present

II. Read "Embassy" on page 3 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 9 to 15.

9. The words "it had rained" (line 2) suggest

A. a cleansing effect with promise for tomorrow
B. a depressing weather pattern that lowers morale
C. that the enemy could not advance because of the precipitation
D. that the enemy could easily be seen because of the clear skies

10. In lines 1 to 8 the mood may be described as

A. melancholy and truly peaceful
B. calm and deceptively peaceful
C. lethargic and sentimental
D. pensive and conciliatory

11. The behavior of the gardeners and the chauffeur indicates their

A. indolence
B. indifference
C. involvement
D. industriousness

12. The words "the armies waited for a verbal error" (line 10) suggest that

A. unsuccessful diplomacy may trigger a war
B. the charisma of the diplomats fools no one
C. preparations for full-scale war are complete
D. the military hierarchy is suspicious of political directives

13. In lines 12 and 13, the statement "on the issue of their charm depended a land laid waste" is an example of

A. irony
B. imagery
C. allusion
D. symbolism

14. The speaker's attitude toward diplomacy is one of

A. apathy
B. skepticism
C. irreverence
D. ambivalence

15. Which statement BEST expresses the theme of the poem?

A. World peace is threatened by well-prepared armies.
B. Diplomats may arrive at ill-considered conclusions.
C. People rarely comprehend the intricacies of diplomacy.
D. Human destiny depends on the decisions of a powerful élite.

III. Read the excerpt from *Julia* on pages 4 to 6 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 16 to 25.

16. The most probable setting for this scene is

A. Germany before the Second World War
B. Poland before the Second World War
C. France during the Second World War
D. Russia during the Second World War

17. The opening lines (1-8) establish a mood of

A. mystery
B. sadness
C. confusion
D. hopelessness

18. The words "It's done. It's what it is" (line 15) show that Julia is

A. bitter
B. casual
C. practical
D. idealistic

19. In lines 19 and 20, Julia's difficulty in getting Lillian's attention suggests that

A. Julia is insensitive
B. Julia is too demanding
C. Lillian is easily distracted
D. Lillian is emotionally distraught

20. Within the context of the whole passage, Lillian's comment "I still carry too much" (line 32) could symbolically refer to

A. the purse
B. the money
C. her journey
D. her emotion

21. "They all seem to be looking at her" (line 64) suggests Lillian's

A. fear
B. egotism
C. concern
D. suspicion

22. The BEST inference that the reader can make about Lillian's reason for smuggling the money is that

A. Julia has asked for her help
B. Lillian shares Julia's concerns
C. Lillian wants to prove her courage
D. Julia has helped Lillian in the past

23. The money will be used to

A. buy the release of prisoners
B. help the underground buy arms
C. buy essential political information
D. help the underground buy medicine

24. We assume that the money was transferred from

A. Lillian's purse to Julia's crutch
B. Lillian's pocket to Julia's purse
C. Lillian's hat to Julia's false leg
D. Lillian's hatbox to Julia's coat lining

25. Julia appears unemotional in this scene because she

A. knows Lillian's temperament
B. is by nature a cold person
C. is impatient with Lillian
D. wants to forget the past

IV. Read "Girl and Horse, 1928" on page 7 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 26 to 32.

26. The words "apple blossoms falling around you, snow, sun, snow" (lines 6-7) suggest

A. the youthfulness of the girl
B. the setting of the poem
C. the beauty of nature
D. the passing of time

27. In the context of the imagery of stanza 2, the word "listen" in line 7 suggests the speaker's sense of

A. fear
B. wonder
C. urgency
D. indifference

28. When the speaker asks the rhetorical question "Why do you smile?" (line 5) she wishes to

A. discover "that secret place"
B. know the cause of the smile
C. warn the girl of what is to come
D. remind the girl of the changing seasons

29. That the girl was "caught by light" (line 13) indicates that she was

A. enveloped by an aura
B. struck by a sudden discovery
C. looking at a spectacular sunset
D. photographed at a single moment

30. In lines 14-16 the speaker articulates the universal yearning to

A. live secret dreams
B. remain young forever
C. live life to the fullest
D. return to the simple life

31. The theme of this poem is MOST COMPLETELY embodied in the contrast between the

A. girl's radiance and the fallen blossoms
B. blossoming trees and the vanished orchard
C. girl's naivete and the speaker's awareness
D. vitality of youth and the painfulness of age

32. The quotation that BEST presents an idea similar to the main idea of the poem is

A. "Life has passed unseen, in a sign, in a flash. . .together with the youth, with the strength, with the romance of illusions. . ." (Joseph Conrad, *Youth*)

B. "And do whate'er thou wilt, swift-footed Time. . .But I forbid thee one most heinous crime:. . .O, carve not with thy hours my love's fair brow" (Shakespeare, Sonnet XIX)

C. "How soon hath Time the subtle thief of youth, stolen on his wing my three and twentieth year!" (Milton, "On His Having Arrived at the Age of Twenty-three")

D. "Gather ye rosebuds while ye may, Old Time is still a Flying." (Robert Herrick, "To Virgins to Make Much of Time")

V. Read the excerpt from *Antony and Cleopatra* on pages 8 and 9 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 33 to 42.

33. Philo's opening remarks reveal that Antony has become

A. statesmanlike rather than warlike
B. distracted by the pressures of war
C. more interested in love than in fighting
D. more concerned with the welfare of Egypt than of Rome

34. Philo's attitude toward Antony's transformation is one of

A. envy
B. mistrust
C. contempt
D. resentment

35. "There's beggary in the love that can be reckon'd" (line 16) means that

A. love that can be measured is worthless
B. love is a beautiful but abstract emotion
C. poverty does not preclude falling in love
D. sacrifice of worldly goods is one of love's demands

36. In line 18, Antony suggests that his passion for Cleopatra is

A. a matter that concerns him alone
B. undefinable by existing standards
C. a problem with serious repercussions
D. doubly blessed by both kings and gods

37. Cleopatra's reference to "scarce-bearded Caesar" (line 24) suggests that Caesar is

A. sly and cunning
B. egotistical and weak
C. young and inexperienced
D. crude and unsophisticated

38. In lines 37 to 44, Antony suggests that perfect love

A. unifies man and nature
B. inspires all who know of it
C. overshadows all other concerns
D. reflects the nobility of the lovers

39. Cleopatra's insistence that Antony "hear the ambassadors" (line 54) suggests that she

A. wishes to get rid of Antony
B. is more practical than Antony
C. is concerned about Antony's prestige
D. fears a reprimand from Antony's wife

40. In lines 55 to 62, Antony's attitude to Cleopatra's urging can BEST be described as

A. contemptuous and bitter
B. passionate and pleading
C. arrogant and angry
D. amused and playful

41. Antony's comment "Speak not to us" (line 62) is spoken to

A. Cleopatra
B. the attendants
C. the messengers
D. Philo and Demetrius

42. Demetrius' comment "he approves the common liar" (line 69) suggests that Antony

A. welcomes gossip about others
B. confirms the rumors about himself
C. defends the person accused of lying
D. encourages the person who repeats falsehoods

VI. Read "That Yellow Prairie Sky" on pages 10 to 13 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 43 to 50.

43. When Julie insists on a "promise" of a house (lines 22-51), she is shown to be

A. frivolous
B. insensitive
C. hypocritical
D. manipulative

44. The beginning of the couples' married lives is characterized by their

A. optimism
B. uncertainty
C. complacency
D. apprehension

45. Together, the two italicized paragraphs (lines 61-64 and lines 97-101) serve MAINLY to

A. acknowledge the function of nature
B. foreshadow the outcome of the story
C. reflect an emotional response to nature
D. identify a regional geographical setting

46. For Tom's wife, Kay, "the black dirt" (line 132) symbolizes

A. disappointment
B. misfortune
C. wealth
D. hope

47. Tom's action of flinging the hailstones at the sky (line 137) can BEST be described as a gesture symbolic of

A. despair
B. defiance
C. invincibility
D. perseverance

48. After the storm Tom and Kay decide to

A. give up farming
B. move to Toronto
C. remain on the farm
D. find work elsewhere

49. When the speaker says "The elevator wasn't getting any closer. It never does" (lines 6-7), he is suggesting that

A. his concern for his brother is unchanging
B. he rejects his past on the farm completely
C. his memories of the landscape are still strong
D. he realizes he is alienated from his prairie origins

50. The thematic impact of this story evolves MAINLY from the

A. conflict between man and himself
B. conflict between urban and rural values
C. contrast between expectation and outcome
D. contrast between enthusiasm and cynicism

VII. Read "Three Cheers for the Snail Darter" on pages 14 and 15 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 51 to 59.

51. By referring to "practical men of affairs" (lines 1-2) as "p.m.o.a.'s" (line 11), the author

A. reinforces their importance
B. diminishes their importance
C. introduces his controlling idea
D. develops his article effectively

52. According to the author, the MAIN justification for the Endangered Species Act is that it will

A. expand our knowledge of biology
B. allow for creative scientific experiments
C. save us from inadvertent, costly mistakes
D. foster the goals of conservative capitalists

53. The question "What good is a snail darter?" (line 23) begins a paragraph that is developed by

A. reasons
B. examples
C. anecdotes
D. contrasts

54. The author answers the question "What good is a snail darter?" (line 23) by

A. stating that its potential value is unknown
B. predicting future benefits from the snail darter
C. ranking its value with the value of other species
D. arguing for the importance of maintaining some species

55. According to the author, practical men "measure 'good' " (line 23) in terms of

A. moral standards
B. profit potential
C. ecological values
D. public acceptance

56. The author makes reference to Jenner, Fleming, and Goodyear (lines 25-26) to demonstrate that

A. arguments he is using have been proven by others
B. advances in science depend on unimportant species
C. apparently unimportant species may become valuable
D. discoveries in laboratories have provided many cures

57. The analogy established in lines 49 to 51 is used to emphasize the idea that

A. human knowledge is always increasing
B. the study of literature and the study of science are inseparable
C. conservation should be taken seriously and should be enforced
D. the elimination of species with unknown potential is irresponsible

58. The author's concluding statements stem MAINLY from his

A. scientific experience
B. distrust of legislators
C. knowledge of biology
D. philosophical principles

59. The statement, "[The Endangered Species Act] recognizes values, be they ethical or esthetic, that transcend the purely practical and admit to awe in the face of the diversity of creation" (lines 52-54), suggests that those who proposed the act are

A. ambitious
B. insightful
C. sentimental
D. sophisticated

VIII. Read "David" on page 16 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 60 to 66.

60. Goliath's MAJOR assumption (lines 1-3) is that he is

A. competent
B. stalwart
C. peerless
D. right

61. According to the poet, there are surgeons, sergeants, and deans (lines 4-5) who can be compared to Goliath because in each group there are those who

A. feign power
B. prize power
C. desire power
D. presume power

62. The "pebble" (line 8) is an appropriate symbol because it connotes

A. constancy
B. rotundity
C. smoothness
D. insignificance

63. The statement "The power of status which is but two-footed" (line 14) refers to the

A. position of Goliath in his army
B. transitory nature of man's domination
C. certainty of David's victory over Goliath
D. celebrated importance of rank in any army

64. The poet implies that the basis for David's victory is his

A. faith and confidence in his own ability
B. innocence and corresponding lack of fear
C. unimportance and consequent lack of status
D. determination and sense of his own destiny

65. According to the poet, the outcome of the contest was

A. inevitable
B. conclusive
C. incredible
D. expedient

66. The theme of this poem may BEST be expressed in the statement

A. One may question the status quo.
B. Idealism and determination can overcome injustice.
C. The virtue of youth can prevail against great obstacles.
D. Open-mindedness and preparation can overcome arrogance.

IX. Read "Springtime" on pages 17 to 19 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 67 to 73.

67. The source of Miss Amelia's "rage" is

A. her anxiety about getting old
B. the lack of romance in her life
C. the ill-treatment by her neighbors
D. her disapproval of neighborhood customs

68. The difference between Amelia's personality and that of the other women is MOST vividly expressed by

A. "still a maid, but she wasn't old" (line 6)
B. "enticing enough to be followed frequently" (line 9)
C. "an unbroken mare in a field of fat cows" (lines 12-13)
D. "she had a look like a bull whip" (line 17)

69. Charles' submissive nature is revealed in

A. "He had a heart that was tender and understanding." (lines 32-33)
B. "He was filled with a kind of fearful joy." (line 46)
C. "For him she was already almost the boss." (lines 57-58)
D. "And he blushed when he took the money." (line 58)

70. Within the context of the story, Charles' reflection that "a compliment is quickly made, doesn't cost anything, and can't lead very far" (lines 35-36) is

A. witty
B. ironic
C. ambivalent
D. perceptive

71. The initial reason that Miss Amelia falls in love with Charles is that he

A. is admirable
B. is understanding
C. appeals to her vanity
D. compliments her on her figure

72. In lines 73 to 78, the author suggests that Charles' brother-in-law feels

A. apathetic
B. comfortable
C. apprehensive
D. compassionate

73. The title "Springtime" suggests the MAIN idea that

A. people tend to behave responsively in the spring
B. spring evokes an appreciation of beauty
C. spring is the season of susceptibility
D. romance is as fleeting as spring

X. Read "Marrying Absurd" on pages 20 and 21 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 74 to 80.

74. Judge Brennan's statement, "I could've married them *en masse*, but they're people, not cattle" (line 21) is ironic because

A. people expect more ritual from a wedding service
B. neither people nor cattle can exist in the desert
C. he pro-rates the wedding fees for each couple
D. he processes them like an unruly herd

75. According to the author, Las Vegas marriages are "curious and self-contradictory" (line 24) because

A. Las Vegas is devoted to immediate gratification
B. the weddings are hasty yet concerned with traditions
C. Las Vegas weddings have become an efficient industry
D. the atmosphere is influenced by mobsters and call girls

76. The phrase "bizarre and beautiful" (lines 25-26) emphasizes

A. the irrelevance of time in Las Vegas
B. the paradoxical nature of Las Vegas
C. the glamor and banality of Las Vegas casinos
D. the juxtaposition of the desert with Las Vegas glitter

77. The "impulse" mentioned in line 43 is the wish for

A. a fast ceremony
B. a formal wedding
C. a successful marriage
D. a genuine commitment

78. The advertisement "Sincere and Dignified Since 1954" (line 44) is ironic because

A. the situation encourages haste and shallowness
B. the entrepreneurs are not sincere and dignified
C. the other nineteen chapels are intensely competitive
D. the service is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week

79. The phrases "one bride lent her veil" (lines 19-20), "detachable modified train" (lines 41-42), and "chinchilla coats for sale or rent" (lines 51-52) all contribute to a feeling of

A. luxury
B. frugality
C. insensitivity
D. impermanence

80. The author's list of the extensive and continuous "services" (lines 46-53) suggests that she believes that

A. Las Vegas marriage participants expect efficiency
B. Las Vegas businesses cater to a transient population
C. in Las Vegas, time is not important where love is concerned
D. in Las Vegas, marriage has been reduced to a matter of convenience

DUPLICATION OF THIS PAPER IN ANY MANNER OR ITS USE FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN THOSE AUTHORIZED AND SCHEDULED BY ALBERTA EDUCATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.